

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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The Trade and Development Agency's mission is to advance economic development and U.S. commercial interest in developing and middle-income countries in the following regions of the world: Africa/Middle East, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eurasia.

The Trade and Development Program was established on July 1, 1980, as a component organization of the International Development Cooperation Agency. Section 2204 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (22 U.S.C. 2421) made it a separate component agency. The organization was renamed the Trade and Development Agency and made an independent agency within the executive branch of the Federal Government on October 28, 1992, by the Jobs Through Exports Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 2421).

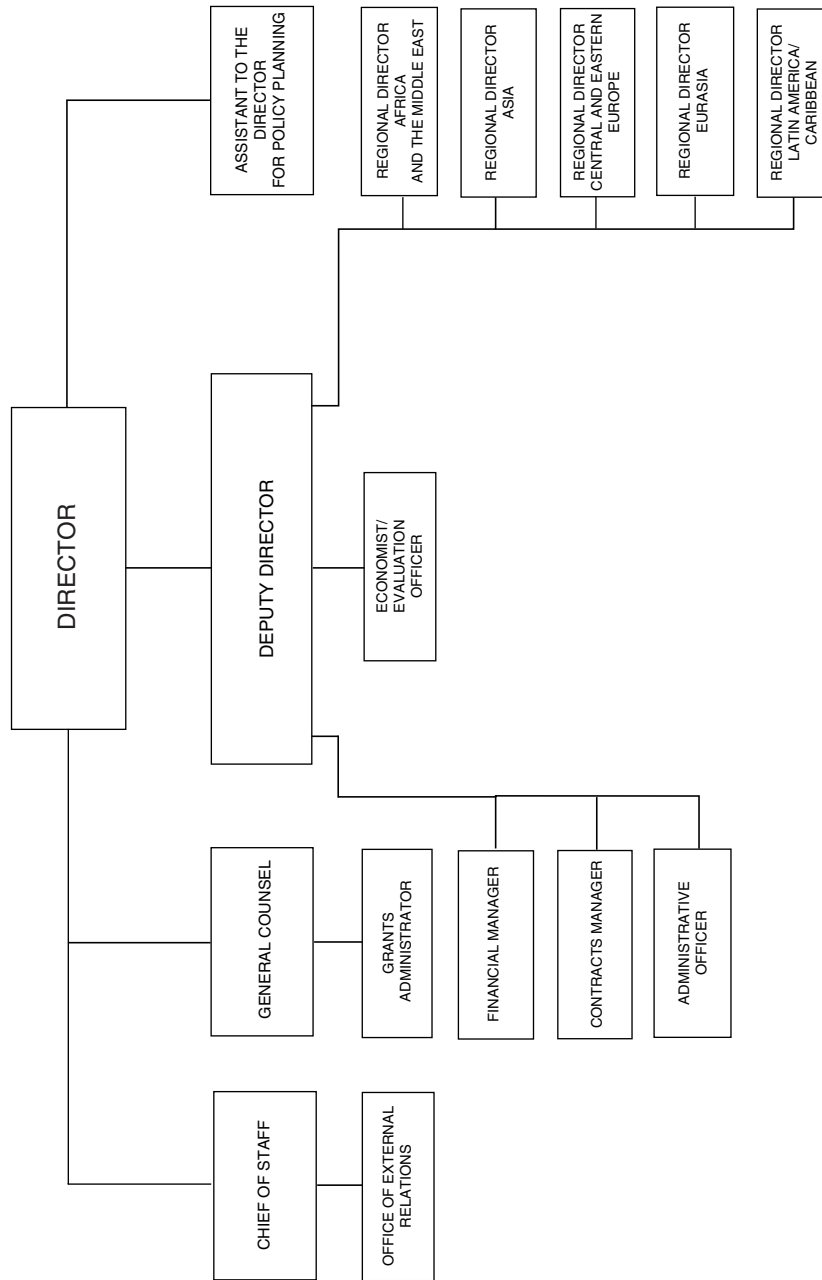
The Trade and Development Agency (TDA) is a foreign assistance agency that facilitates development in emerging markets by promoting U.S. partnerships in high-priority overseas projects. TDA's strategic use of foreign assistance funds to support sound investment policy and decision-making in host countries creates

an enabling environment for trade, investment, and sustainable economic development.

Working through the U.S. private sector to implement its programs, TDA brings best practices and U.S. technology to bear in delivering specific, results-oriented development assistance. In carrying out its mission, TDA gives emphasis to economic sectors that may benefit from U.S. exports of goods, and services.

TDA works with other U.S. Government agencies to bring their particular expertise and resources to a development objective. These agencies include the Departments of State, Treasury, Commerce, Transportation, Energy, Agriculture, and Homeland Security, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the Export-Import Bank

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of the United States, and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

Activities

TDA funds various forms of technical assistance, feasibility studies, training, orientation visits and business workshops that support the development of a modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment. Working closely with a foreign project sponsor, TDA makes its funds available on the condition that the foreign entity contract with a U.S. firm to perform the activity funded. This affords American firms market entry, exposure, and information, thus helping them to establish a position in markets that are otherwise difficult to penetrate. TDA is involved in many sectors, including transportation, energy, telecommunications, environment, health care, mining and minerals development, biotechnology, and agriculture.

TDA-funded studies evaluate the technical, economic, and financial aspects of a development project. They also advise the host nation about the availability of U.S. goods and services and can be used by financial institutions in assessing the creditworthiness of an undertaking. Grants are based on an official request for assistance made by the sponsoring government or private sector organization of a developing or middle-income nation, and costs for a study typically are shared between TDA and the U.S. firm developing the project.

The Agency makes decisions on funding requests based on the recommendations contained in definitional mission (DM) or desk study (DS) reports, the advice of the U.S. embassy, and its own internal analysis.

Sources of Information

Requests for proposals (RFPs) to conduct TDA-funded technical assistance and feasibility studies, or DMs involving review of projects under consideration for TDA support are listed on the Federal Business Opportunities Web site at www.eps.gov.

Small and minority U.S. firms that wish to be included in TDA's consultant database and considered for future DM and DS solicitations should register with the Online Consultant database through the Internet at www.tda.gov.

In an effort to provide timely information on Agency-supported projects, TDA publishes the *Pipeline* and a calendar of events on a bi-weekly basis. For a paper subscription, call CIB Publications at 703-516-4801. For an e-mail subscription, visit the guest book at www.tda.gov. A quarterly publication, *TDA Update*, contains current items of interest on a variety of program activities. Region- or sector-specific fact sheets and case studies also are available. An annual report summarizes the Agency's activities.

Agency news, reports, and lists of upcoming conferences, orientation visits, and business briefings are available through the Internet at www.tda.gov.

Regional program inquiries should be directed to the assigned Country Manager. Phone, 703-875-4357. Fax, 703-875-4009. E-mail, info@tda.gov.

TDA's library maintains final reports on all Agency activities. The reports are available for public review Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Copies of completed studies may be purchased through the Department of Commerce's National Technical Information Service.

For further information, contact the Trade and Development Agency, Suite 1600, 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22209-3901. Phone, 703-875-4357. Fax, 703-875-4009. E-mail, info@tda.gov. Internet, www.tda.gov.